B. *Non-Executives*

1.	Shri C.P. Kataria	Electrician	HQ, New Delhi
2.	Ms. Shashi Kapoor	Assistant	HQ, New Delhi
3.	Shri Ramashwar Pandey	Roneo Operator	HQ, New Delhi
4.	Shri Madho Ram	Electrician	HQ, New Delhi
5.	Shri Bhagwan Singh Bist	Electrician	HQ, New Delhi
6.	Shri Surjit Pachal	Jr. Assistant	HQ, New Delhi
7.	Shri U.S. Mishra	Clerk	HQ, New Delhi

Proposal to develop Mangalore and Udupi Districts of Karnataka as Tourism Centres

1542. SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to develop the Mangalore and the Udupi Districts of Karnataka as Tourist Centres; and

(b) if so, the places identified in these Districts for Development as tourist centres, the estimated cost and date of completion of the projects?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA KUMAR JENA): (a) and (b) The Department of Tourism of Union Government sanctioned financial assistance of Rs. 1174.71 lakhs for various projects in Karnataka during Eighth Plan. Which included construction of Public Convenience at Ullal in Mangalore district and a Yatri Niwas at Udupi.

Steps to encourage Tourism in the North-Eastern Region

1543. SHRI ONWARDL NONGTDU: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken to encourage tourism in the North-Eastern Region during the next 5 years; and

(b) the most important new projects proposed to be developed for the purpose; state-wise details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA KUMAR JENA): (a) and (b) The steps taken to encourage tourism in the North Eastern Region during the next five years include emphasis on Infrastructure and Human Resource Development and wide publicity of tourist attractions of the region. The Task Force of the Department of Tourism has prepared a report for development through Tourism in the North Eastern States. The Department of Tourism has also identified Guwahati-Kaziranga-Shillong-Tawangas as a travel circuit for intensive and integrated development.

For the year 1997-98 the Department of Tourism has identified 53 projects estimated at Rs. 1480 lakhs for central financial assistance in the region. These projects include construction of Tourist Complexes, Wayside amenities, tourist Reception Centres, Tourist Huts, Purchase of Adventure Sports Equipments and illumination of important places.

बिहार के बांसी मंदारहल, अमरपुर अचंल के झरण तथा देवधर क्षेत्रों में पर्यटन के विकास के लिए योजना

1544. **श्री जर्नादन यादव :** क्या पर्यटन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या बिहार के बांसी मंदारहल, अमरपुर अंचल के झरणा तथा देवधर क्षेत्रों में पर्यटन के विकास से संबंधित कोई योजना स्वीकृत की गई है,

(ख) यदि हां, तो उक्त योजना का ब्यौरा क्या है, और

(ग) इन पर्यटन केन्द्रों का विकास कब तक किया जायेगा तथा यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण है?

संसदीय कार्य मंत्री तथा पर्यटन मंत्री (श्री श्रीकान्त जेना) : (क) जी, नहीं।

(ख) और (ग) पर्यटक स्थलों की पहचान करना और विकास करना एक सतत् प्रक्रिया है और यह मुख्तया राज्य सरकारो की जिम्मेदारी है। पर्यटन विभाग, भारत सरकार/राज्य संघ राज्य क्षेत्र की सरकारों को उनसे प्राप्त विशिष्ट परियोजना प्रस्तावों के आधार पर उनके गुण-दोषों , पारस्परिक प्राथमिकता और धन की उपलब्धता पर निर्भर करते हुए वित्तीय सहायता प्रदान करता है।

Infrastructure to Accommodate Projected Tourists by the Turn of Century

1545. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether projection has been made by Government to get five million tourists by the turn of the century;

(b) if so, the specific steps taken' to develop infrastructure in Delhi and elsewhere in the country to accommodate the projected number of tourists; and

(c) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA KUMAR JENA): (a) The National Action Plan for Tourism-1992 has set a target of five million foreign tourist arrivals which was proposed to be achieved by the turn of the century. However, the Working Group for the Ninth Five Year Plan reviewed the target and an 8% growth in tourist arrivals is considered feasible during Ninth Five Year Plan period.

(b) and (c) Development of tourism infrastructure in any particular place is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State Governments. Non-availability of land at reasonable prices is a major constraint in the development of tourism infrastructure in several cities and particularly in Delhi, the matter has therefore, been taken-up with all the State Governments including Delhi. A number of incentives including tax concessions on foreign exchange earnings, reduction of import duty, etc. arc also being provided for attracting private investment in the tourism sector.

Long term action plan to boost Tourism

1546. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have drawn up any long term action plan to boost tourism in the country;

(b) if so, the salient features of that action plan;

(c) whether equal importance is being given to every state to develop tourism under that action plan; and

(d) if so, the specific schemes' proposals finalised to develop the infrastructure to boost tourism in the eastern States?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA KUMAR JENA): (a) to (b) The Department of Tourism has prepared a Strategy paper to boost tourism in the country. The action plan includes Infrastructure Development, Product Development and diversification, enhanced tourist facilitation, Human Resources development, Research and computerisation, Promotion and Marketing, Environmental protection and cultural preservation, Provision of incentives, Monitoring and Evaluation, Strengthening of Organisation etc. The development of Tourism in each Stale is primarily the responsibility of the concerned State.

Projects are taken up in various States in consultation with the Slate Governments.